

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the first paragraph to the “Brief Description of Drawings” with the following paragraph:

Figure 1 illustrates the phylogenetic relationships of three bacterial strains (i.e., those represented by SEQ ID NO:1 (R7c140), SEQ ID NO:3 (R3c5) and SEQ ID NO:4 (R5c47) ~~SEQ ID NO:2 and SEQ ID NO:3~~) and one substrain (i.e., that strain represented by SEQ ID NO:2 (R7c187) ~~NO:4~~) inferred from comparative analysis of 16S rDNA sequences in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. The tree is based on neighbor-joining distance analysis of sequences containing a minimum of 1430 nucleotides.